

Graduated Driver Licensing

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On January 1, 2003, Manitoba introduced a Graduated Driver Licensing Program (GDL) for Class 5 and 6 driver's licences. Drivers who applied for their first Class 6 driver's licence on or after April 1, 2002 are in GDL and are subject to the GDL stages and restrictions while operating a motorcycle.

GDL is a three-stage licensing process that is designed to help new drivers, regardless of age, acquire the knowledge and skill needed to safely operate a motor vehicle. Whether you are 16 or 60, GDL enables new drivers to gain experience under conditions where the risk of having a collision is lower.

The three stages of GDL are the Learner Stage, the Intermediate Stage and the Full licence Stage. Prior to obtaining the Motorcycle Learner Stage, a driver must complete the Motorcycle Training Course. Each stage has specific restrictions imposed on the new driver that will reduce the opportunity and likelihood of them engaging in risky driving behaviour.

Manitoba Class 6 Driver's Licence Stages are:

- M** Motorcycle Training Course—permits operation of a motorcycle while taking the motorcycle training course only
- L** Learner Stage (minimum 9 months)
- I** Intermediate Stage (minimum 15 months)*
- F** Full Stage

**A driver is only required to complete the Intermediate Stage once. Therefore, time served in the Intermediate Stage in Class 5 will be applied to the Intermediate Stage in Class 6.*

(M) Stage Motorcycle Course requirements

To be eligible to apply for a Learner licence, you must be at least 16 years of age. You must pass a knowledge test. You will then be issued a Class 6 M Stage licence. This M stage licence will allow you to operate a motorcycle while taking an approved Motorcycle Training Course.

Once you have completed the Motorcycle Training Course, you will be issued with the Motorcycle Learner Stage Licence. Time served in the M Stage will not be credited to the 9 month Learner Stage period.

Class 6 Learner (L) Stage driving restrictions (Minimum 9 months)

- Maintain zero blood alcohol content while operating a motorcycle
- No passengers
- No night-time driving (1/2 hour before sunset to 1/2 hour after sunrise)
- No towing of vehicles
- No operating of off-road vehicles along or across highways (unless driver holds a minimum class 5 Intermediate Stage licence)

Class 6 Intermediate (I) Stage (Minimum 15 months)*

To graduate to this stage, you must pass the Class 6 road test. While in the Intermediate Stage, you must maintain zero blood alcohol content.

Drivers in the Intermediate Stage may carry a passenger, tow a vehicle and may operate off-road vehicles along or across highways.

**A driver is only required to complete the Intermediate Stage once. Therefore, time served in the Intermediate Stage in Class 6 will be applied to the Intermediate Stage in Class 5 and vice-versa.*

Class 6 Full (F) Stage

After spending a minimum of 15 months in the Intermediate Stage, you will graduate to the Full Stage. For the first 36 months you must continue to maintain zero blood alcohol content while operating a motorcycle.

Authorized Instruction (A) Stage (non-GDL Learner Stage)

An Authorized Instruction Stage applies to:

- drivers who held a Motorcycle Instruction Permit prior to April 1, 2002;
- experienced Class 6 drivers who have been de-classed; or
- experienced drivers transferring to Manitoba and require driver examinations.

Drivers with Authorized Instruction in Class 6 must adhere to certain conditions. You must:

- maintain zero blood alcohol content while operating a motorcycle;
- not carry a passenger;
- not operate off-road vehicles along or across highway (unless driver holds a minimum Class 5 Intermediate Stage licence).

Motorcycle Training Course

Any person applying for their first motorcycle learner's licence on or after January 1, 2003 will be required to complete an approved Motorcycle Training Course in order to qualify for a Class 6 Learner (L) Stage Licence.

This one-day course will provide the new motorcyclist with the basic skills required to operate a motorcycle. This is a user pay course, which is offered province-wide. Contact your nearest Autopac agent or Manitoba Public Insurance Service Centre for further information.

* The law about blood alcohol content (BAC) changed in December 2006.

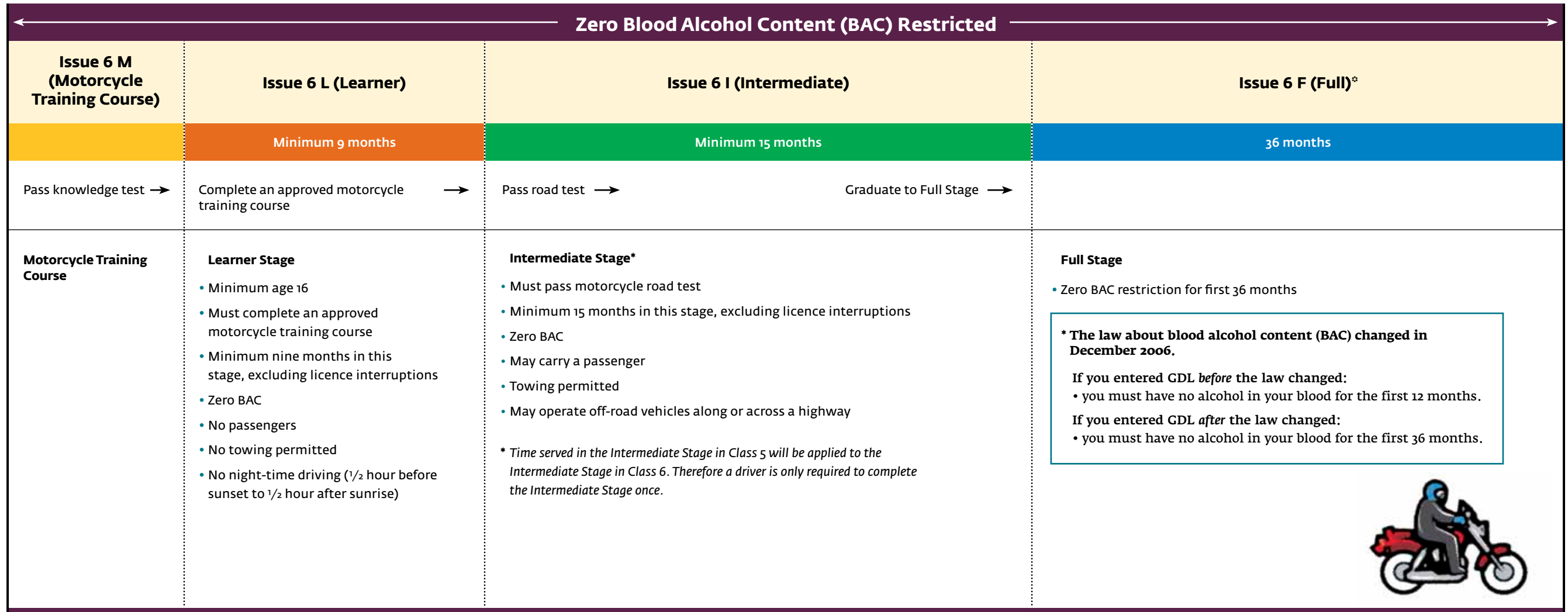
If you entered GDL *before* the law changed:

- you must have no alcohol in your blood for the first 12 months.

If you entered GDL *after* the law changed:

- you must have no alcohol in your blood for the first 36 months.

Graduated Driver Licensing Class 6



Keep your licence valid!

The Manitoba driver's licence is valid for up to 5 years. The driver's licence charge and base driver premium are assessed annually and due for payment on your anniversary date (which is four months less 1 day after your birthday, i.e. if your birthday is September 21, your anniversary date is January 20).

If drivers in the Learner or Intermediate Stage do not renew their licences, they will not earn credit for the period of time they are not licensed. If you own a vehicle, your Autopac will be renewed and expire at the same time as your driver's licence.